

REMARKS

Applicant is providing replacement sheets 1-8 to address any drawing informalities. The cross-reference to related application text is also amended to provide updated patent information and to correct informalities.

Claims 1-99 were originally filed in the above-identified application, and claims 1-53 and 88-99 were canceled in a preliminary amendment concurrently filed. Claims 1-53 and 88-99 were canceled, because originally filed claims 1-33 and 88-90 were prosecuted in the above-identified application's grandparent (now U.S. Patent 6,514,201) as a result of an election in response to a restriction requirement, and originally filed claims 34-53 and 91-99 were prosecuted in the above-identified application's parent (now U.S. Patent 6,743,175) as a result of an election in response to a restriction requirement.

The restriction requirement made in the Office Action appears to assume claims 1-99 were pending. Restriction was thus required to Group I (claims 1-21 and 22-29); Group II (claims 30-33, 70-80, 91-99); Group III (claims 34-43, 44-53); Group IV (claims 54-69); and Group V (claims 81-90).

As discussed above, claims 1-53 and 88-99 are canceled as having been prosecuted and already issued into two patents. Accordingly, all the claims in Groups I and III have been canceled in the present application.

Currently pending claims 54-87 are split among Group II (which now only includes claims 70-80), Group IV (which now only includes claims 54-69) and Group V (which includes claims 81-87).

Claims 100-111, which were previously presented in the grandparent application, are presented in this application.

It is noted that the restriction requirements made in the parent and grandparent applications had claims 54-80 and 100-111 in one group, and claims 81-87 in another group. Therefore, Applicants believe claims 100-111 should be added to the current Group IV, so that Group II includes claims 70-80, Group IV includes claims 54-69 and 100-111, and Group V includes claims 81-87 and 112-114.

Applicants hereby elect Group IV (claims 54-69 and 100-111) for prosecution in this application, without prejudice to prosecuting the remaining Groups II and V in further divisions. Claims 70-99 thus are canceled. Claims 54-69 and 100-111 are pending.

No new claims fees are believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required for filing this paper or during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2179 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.25.

PLEASE MAIL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Siemens Corporation  
**Customer No. 28524**  
Attn: Elsa Keller, Legal Administrator  
170 Wood Avenue South  
Iselin, NJ 08830

Respectfully submitted,  
/Rosa S. Kim/

Rosa S. Kim, Reg. No. 39,728  
Attorney(s) for Applicant(s)  
Telephone: 650-694-5330  
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